

MEMORANDUM

3 April 1946.

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TO: Mr. Horton
FROM: F. J. Stalder

SUBJECT: MAX ZIMMER, Gen. Wolff's Aide in the Sunrise Operation.

*Zimmer Wolff's
man, not sure!*

Zimmer who lived in Milan, was the most important liaison officer between Gen. Wolff with HQ in Fasano and Mr. Dulles in Bern. I would even go as far as saying that without Zimmer's help, at the risk of his life, the surrender negotiations would have been exceedingly difficult if not impossible. I have met Zimmer only twice when I drove him and Gen. Wolff from Lugano to Ascona and back, and talked to him in the garden while Gen. Wolff talked to Mr. Dulles. From Mr. Dulles' report on the Sunrise Operation of May 22, 1945, Accession No. 33859, I should like to emphasize the following points referring to the aid rendered by Zimmer:

1. Zimmer maintained constant liaison between the two parties, travelling back and forth between Italy and Switzerland.
2. At Mr. Dulles's request Zimmer took our radio operator Wally with all his equipment to Milan where he hid him in his own apartment. Within three days Wally's radio started functioning in the heart of German-occupied Milan.
3. Zimmer returned Wally to Switzerland and was again instrumental to get him through Austria to Bolzano.
4. There is no doubt that if Zimmer had ever been caught in any of these operations, he would not be alive today.

On the last page of Mr. Dulles' Sunrise report he definitely states: "No promises were given as a price for that surrender." From various conversations on the Sunrise Operation I seem to remember that it was repeatedly mentioned that Zimmer should be given every consideration by the Allied Authorities for the part he played in the surrender negotiations. Beyond this recommendation I do not feel that we have any moral obligation toward Zimmer although personally I would not see any objection to grant him small favors.

F. J. Stalder

Misc. file.

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